

# The Village of Northfield

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 27, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nehez at 7:30 p.m.

The Pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Nehez.

ROLL CALL was read by Tricia Ingrassia. The following were present: Mayor Nehez, Councilpersons Nick Magistrelli, Jenn Domzalski, Jim Daugherty, Alan Hipps, and Gary Vojtush. In addition, Law Director Brad Bryan was present.

Village Engineer Richard Wasosky, Police Chief Mark Wentz, Fire Chief Jason Buss, and Service Department Director Jason Walters were absent.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of the Council meeting minutes for January 13, 2016. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Hipps and seconded by Councilman Vojtush. All in favor; minutes approved.

### **RESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES:**

Al Fellner, a landlord in the Village, addressed Council again regarding the \$100 annual inspection fee for rental properties. Mr. Fellner feels this fee is unfair and asked if there has been any consideration to remove the fee. Councilwoman Domzalski advised they did discuss this issue at the work session and are discussing a few different options. Mr. Fellner asked when this decision will be made since the fees will be due again in May / June. Councilwoman Domzalski stated the initial plan is to discuss and come to a decision on this issue prior to the time the fees are due again, which would probably be within a couple months.

### **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:**

**MAYOR JESSE J. NEHEZ** - No report.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR TRICIA INGRASSIA**- No report.

Councilman Vojtush asked about the financial statement given to Council in December. Tim Clymer showed a \$650,000 carryover for the end of the year, while Tricia's report is showing a \$1.6 million dollar carryover. Tricia advised she cannot speak about a report prepared by Tim, since she was not here at that time. Tricia advised she is giving them a system generated report that has the actual amounts that were spent in December and the actual amounts that closed the year. Councilman Vojtush asked if it is possible that there are things that were already appropriated that we didn't pay yet. Tricia stated she does not think that occurred. Tricia advised unfortunately she does not have the report, if she would have known she was going to be questioned on it, she would have had it in front of her.

**ENGINEER RICHARD WASOSKY**- No report.

**LAW DIRECTOR BRADRIC BRYAN**- Brad reported Council President Magistrelli requested Council go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss the appointment of an elected official and to discuss compensation for a public employee.

Councilman Vojtush stated he talked to Councilman Daugherty, and he told him of a loan we are still paying on to the race track and asked what this loan was for. Councilman Daugherty stated he misunderstood and Brad and Tricia can explain. Finance Director Tricia Ingrassia explained there was a transfer made from the TIF fund to re-pay the general fund for the \$466,000 paid by the Village for the installation of the 3 new

traffic signals on Route 8. The \$147,000 that the Rocksino paid to the Village prior to the Village's receipt of the first \$1,000,000 payment from the State (and paid back to the Rocksino once the State money was received) was originally not included in the amount of pre TIF payment TIF permitted expenditures. That amount has now been included in the pre TIF payment TIF permissible expenses tally. Mayor Nehez told Finance Director Tricia Ingrassia what a wonderful job she is doing.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**Police Department, Chief Mark Wentz-** No report.

**Fire Chief, Jason Buss-** No Report.

**Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters-**No report.

#### **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION, ALAN E. HIPPS-** The January 20, 2016 Planning Commission meeting minutes were passed out to prior to this meeting. They discussed the subdivision of 27 May Ave. (For details see planning commission minutes)

A motion to affirm the Planning Commission's January 20, 2016 decision to approve the 27 May Ave subdivision project was made by Councilman Vojtush. All in favor, zero opposed.

**RECREATION BOARD- MAYOR NEHEZ-** The next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2016 at 7:30pm in Council Chambers.

**CEMETERY BOARD, BEATRICE GREENLEE-** No report.

#### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MAGISTRELLI:** There was a Finance Committee meeting today prior to the Council meeting. Law Director Brad Bryan read the following resolution.

**2016-10-** An Emergency Resolution to approve the payment of bills for the month of January, 2016 in the amount of \$376,131.73. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Daugherty and seconded by Councilman Vojtush. All in favor; zero opposed. Mayor Nehez asked Tricia to explain the proposal on the table as to how the Finance Committee will operate going forward.

Tricia advised that the Mayor would be given a nominal spending authority (\$5,000 spending limit) in order to pay the contractors and vendors in a timely fashion instead of once a month. If there is something over the Mayor's \$5,000 limit, approval from Council would be necessary.

Tricia advised these changes will make things in the Finance Office run much smoother.

**2016-09 –** An Emergency Ordinance Amending Sections 230.01 and 238.07 and Establishing Section 230.015 of the Codified Ordinances Relating to Monthly Financial Statements to Council, the Authority to Purchase, and the Payment of Claims. First reading. It was decided that this legislation would be placed on second reading at the next Regular Council Meeting.

A work session was scheduled for February 2, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

The Finance Committee Meeting was scheduled for February 24, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

**ROADS/PUBLIC WORKS, COUNCILMAN DAUGHERTY:-** No report.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** No report.

**WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS, COUNCILMAN VOJTUSH:** No report.

**FIRE AND SAFETY, COUNCILWOMAN DOMZALSKI:** No report.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, COUNCILMAN HIPPS:** No report.

## **LEGISLATION**

**2016-05 --**A Resolution Authorizing Euthenics, Inc. to Complete the Preliminary Design Phase for the Ledge Road Reconstruction Phase 2 Project. Second reading. Will go to 3rd reading.

## **OLD BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS; NEW BUSINESS.**

Mayor Nehez announced that there is a new reporter in the audience, Victor Milani, with the [Nordoniahills.news](http://Nordoniahills.news).

A motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a Village official and the compensation of a Village employee was made by Councilman Hipps and seconded by Councilman Vojtush. A roll call vote on the motion was taken with all in favor.

A motion to come out of executive session was made by Councilman Daugherty and seconded by Councilman Hipps. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor.

Councilwoman Domzalski made a motion to appoint Renell Noack to the vacant Ward C Council seat, which was seconded by Council President Magistrelli.

Thereafter, the following discussion was had.

Councilman Vojtush stated he is highly concerned with the finances in the Village.

Council President Magistrelli stated picking someone to fill the vacant Council seat was a hard decision, since we had four great candidates. Council President Magistrelli reported he chose Renell Noack because she ran for Council, and she did the footwork and knocked on doors.

Councilman Daugherty agreed with Council President Magistrelli and encouraged the other candidates to run during the next election.

Councilpersons Daugherty, Magistrelli, Hipps, and Domzalski voted in favor of the motion; Councilman Vojtush abstained. Motion approved.

**ADJOURNMENT** –A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Daugherty and seconded by Councilman Daugherty. All in favor, zero opposed. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Tricia Ingrassia, Clerk of Council